(c) The main recommendations of the Committee are given in the Statement.

Statement

Main Recommendations of the Inter-Departmental Committee on introducing competition in the Electronic Media

The Committee acknowledges the need for introducing competition in the Electronic media.

2. The Committee has listed out the various options available to the Government for introducing competition, ranking them in the following order of priority :

(a) Setting up of new TV/Radio channels for regional broadcast may be allowed in the different parts of the country subject to viability of operations including suitable linkage for inter-regional network.

(b) Second channel of Doordarshan in the four metropolitan cities and additional radio channels including FM stations wherever available may also simultaneously be leased out to suitable licencees after passage of suitable legislation.

(c) Permission may be given to one agency or consortium to set up a series of transmitters in the country. [This option will rank only next to the option at (a) above.]

(d) Leasing out a particular time chunk from existing TV/Radio channels is not recommended.

(e) Option of licencees leasing a transponder on a satellite is appropriate for developmental or educational telecast and may be considered by Government when spare segment on satellite becomes available.

3. Selection of agencies for grant of licence should be done by an independent agency which could be called Broadcasting Council and be comprised of eminent public men with unimpeachable probity.

4. Organisations eligible to receive licences shold be public limited companies with major interest groups concerned with broadcasting represented in management and with open access to shareholding.

5. Cross Media restrictions to avoid monopoly over information sources suggested.

6. Preference may be given to public bodies like Universities, cooperative institutions etc. in the matter of grant of licence in their area of operation.

7. Guidelines for programmes spelt out, *e.g.* advertisements to conform to the advertisement code of AIR/Doordarshan, no programme to offend the religious sentiments of any group, prejudicial to the sovereignty and integrity of India, etc. or infringe the provisions of the copyright Act.

8. System of quality rating and procedure for redressal of complaints suggested.

9. The Broadcasting Council of India be vested, through suitable legislation, with the functions of licensing, monitoring of programmes, quality rating and redressal of complaints.

10. New legislation to govern the setting up and operation of additional broadcast channels be enacted.

Children in abysmal working conditions at Sivakasi

544. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that despite the directive of the Supreme Court children are made to work for piece rate payments in abysma working conditions at Sivakasi; andl

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR) : (a) and (b) It has been

reported by the State Government of Tamil Nadu that the Supreme Court has not given any direction against payment of piece rate wages. However, the Government of Tamil Nadu have fixed minimum rates of wages for all workers, irrespective of age, for different jobs in match industry as against the Supreme Court direction to pay atleast 60% of prescribed minimum wages for adult workers to the working children.

असंगठित क्षेत्र में श्रमिकों के कानूनी अधिकार

545. **श्री ईश दत्त यादव** : क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि असंगठित क्षेत्र में करोड़ों श्रमिकों को उनके कानूनी अधिकारों से वंचित रखा जा रहा है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ;

(ग) असंगठित क्षेत्र के ऐसे श्रमिकों को पर्याप्त कानूनी सुविधाएं उपलब्ध कराने के लिए गत दो वर्षों के दौरान सरकार ने क्या-क्या कदम उठाये हैं ; और

(घ) इस दिशा में कितनी प्रगति हुई है ?

श्रम मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री पबन सिंह घटोवार) : (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

(ग) और (घ) वर्तमान कानूनी सहायता योजना के अनुसार जिन व्यक्तियों की सभी स्रोतों से आय 6000 से अधिक नहीं है वे उच्च न्यायालय स्तर तक चलाये जाने वाले मामलों के लिए कानूनी सहायता प्राप्त करने के हकदार हैं । उच्चतम न्यायालय में चलाए जा जाने वाले मामलों के लिए उन व्यक्तियों के लिए कानूनी सहायता उपलब्ध है जिनकी सभी स्रोतों से आय 9,000 रु० से अधिक नहीं है । हाल ही में समाज के अपेक्षाकृत बड़े वर्गों को कानूनी सहायता प्रदान करने के उद्देश्य से इस योजना को उन सभी व्यक्तियों पर लागू किया गया है जिनकी वार्षिक आय 12,000 रु० प्रति वर्ष से अधिक नहीं है । वार्षिक आय की सीमा अनुसूचित जातियों, अनुसूचित जनजातियों, विमुक्त जातियों, खानाबदोश जनजातियों से संबंधित व्यक्तियों, महिलाओं और बालकों पर लागू नहीं होती जो निःशुल्क कानूनी सेवाओं के हकदार हैं।

पिछले दो वर्षों में 2,87,270 व्यक्ति सरकार की कानूनी सहायता योजना से लाभान्वित हुए हैं ।

Cases of industrial disputes pending in Madras region

546. SHRI S. MADHAVAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of industrial disputes are pending in the Madras region and if so, the details thereof ; and

(b) whether the labour organisations have demanded for creation of additional courts to clear the pending cases in the Madras region and if so, the action taken thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Pension to Non-Government employees

547. SHRI P. UPENDRA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal for introduction of a pension scheme for non-